DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO



OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
351 North Mountain View Avenue, Third Floor ◆ San Bernardino, CA 92415-0010
(909) 387-9146 ◆ Fax (909) 387-6228

TRUDY RAYMUNDO Public Health Director

MAXWELL OHIKHUARE, M.D. Health Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 18, 2012 NR #12-46 CONTACT: Trudy Raymundo
Public Health Director
(909) 387-9146

San Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative (SBCRC) Hosts Summit: Partnership for Safer Communities

San Bernardino: The San Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative (SBCRC) will host a summit; *Partnership for Safer Communities* on Thursday September 20, 2012 at the San Bernardino Hilton located at 285 East Hospitality Lane from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

SBCRC is a partnership of agencies, organizations, and residents coming together to develop comprehensive strategies for the successful reintegration and long term success of the formerly incarcerated returning to San Bernardino County.

The purpose of this summit is to provide information to the public, law enforcement and policy makers on national, state, and local reentry efforts to make San Bernardino County communities safer. It will also highlight the SBCRC Strategic Plan recently accepted by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on September 11, 2012.

"From the onset, the SBCRC Strategic Plan was designed to engage public safety, community services, and faith-based organizations serving this transitional population," said Josie Gonzales, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. "The best way to protect our neighborhoods and reduce recidivism is to create outlets where they can access services provided by agencies and churches within their own communities."

The SBCRC Strategic Plan outlines comprehensive strategies and action items in areas of public safety, housing, employment, education, health and human services, and supporting the role of faith and community based organizations to reduce recidivism rates and improve community safety. Funding received from the U.S. Department of Justice Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Planning Program Grant, assisted in the ten month planning process led by the community to conduct a needs assessment and create the Strategic Plan.

"The development and release of the Strategic Plan, is the first step in making our community safer", stated Trudy Raymundo, Director of Public Health/Co-Chair of San

Board of Supervisors

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.....Second District GARY C. OVITT.....Fourth

JOSIE GONZALES, CHAIR.....Fifth District

Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative. "The Summit provides the opportunity to highlight the Collaborative's efforts, and begin the dialogue in how to effectively implement the strategies within regions of the County."

Summit speakers include Nastassia Walsh from the Council of State Governments Justice Center; Terri McDonald, Undersecretary of Operations at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, leaders from County law and justice agencies, and a representative from the Police Chief Association.

For more information regarding the *Partnership for Safer Communities* Summit, or to RSVP, please contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health at (909) 387-6218 or mocampo@dph.sbcounty.gov.

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